

Bush urged to bar Arafat from U.N.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government was urged by 126 members of Congress Tuesday to deny a visa to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat if he seeks to address the U.N. General Assembly. At the State Department, spokesman Richard Boucher said that Arafat has not applied for a visa. In a letter to President George Bush, 58 members of the U.S. House of Representatives contended Arafat should be denied a visa if he seeks one because he has not lived up to his promises last December to renounce terrorism and recognize the right of Israel to exist. The 68 senators — 34 Democrats and 34 Republicans — made the same point in a letter to Secretary of State James Baker and added: "The PLO is on a collision course with the peace process. Arafat and the PLO must reaffirm and implement, in deed and in word, the statements of just nine months ago. Rewarding the PLO at this time would undercut the peace process, call into question the seriousness of U.S. anti-terrorism policy, be (contrary) to American interests and threaten the security of Israel."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورдан تايمز يومية مدنية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الرأي)



W. Bankers defy Israeli tax raids

BEIT SAOUR (IR) — Israeli tax officials Tuesday raided the occupied West Bank town of Beit Sahour for a sixth day but residents vowed to pursue a campaign of civil disobedience and support for the Palestinian uprising. A statement prepared jointly by Beit Sahour residents and Israeli peace activists compared Palestinian refusal to pay taxes to their occupier with American refusal to pay British rulers in the 18th century. "Taxation without representation violates fundamental principles of self-determination and civil rights," it said. "We don't have to pay taxes to a government who puts its hand on us." Mechanic Michel Jamil Kukai said after soldiers and tax collectors stripped his house of furniture and seized his garage equipment. Kukai said he would only pay the \$5,000 that tax authorities said he owed if uprising leaders revoked the strike call. "If they tell me to, I pay," he said. "I am a man of Beit Sahour. I can only do what the town does." Israeli troops have raided about 40 shops and residences in Beit Sahour and taken merchandise worth more than \$100,000, acting Mayor Khalil Aheir told reporters.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Council leaders end Sanaa summit, to meet again in Amman in February

ACC urges U.S. to take positive stand on Palestinian rights

King praises intifada, hopes for Lebanon peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

SANA — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday paid tribute to the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and said the continued revolt was an "expression of the Palestinian people that they are part of the Arab Nation, which rejects humiliation, confronts challenges and resists the enemy regardless of the sacrifices."

Addressing the final session of a summit of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which opened here Monday, the King emphasized the need for Arab unity to counter the challenges facing the Arab World.

Noting that the ACC summit was being held at a time when the Palestinian uprising was continuing, the King said: "Inasmuch as the Palestinian people express their true belonging to their homeland and demonstrate their courage in resisting Israel's occupation, the Israelis are escalating their futile attempts to crush the intifada and strike hard at the resistance movement."

The King underlined the importance of Lebanon's unity, sovereignty and security by describing them as an inseparable part of pan-Arab security. He voiced hope that the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee would be successful to bring an end to the war-torn country's ordeal. "Reaching a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese problem is a collective Arab responsibility," he said and called on all Arabs to exert every effort to contribute to the endeavours of the tripartite committee.

The King praised Iraq for its contribution to peace and paid tribute to its firm stand against Iranian aggression. "With the bodies and blood of its martyrs, Iraq has erected triumphal arches for the entire Arab Nation," he said. Iraq had extended its hand for peace at a time when it might be at a peak and demonstrated every goodwill and readiness to establish relations with Iran based on good neighbourly relations. "But Iran rejected all these offers and resorted to manoeuvring," he said.

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By P.V. Vivekanand with agency dispatches

THE LEADERS of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ended a two-day summit in Sanaa, North Yemen, Tuesday with a call on the United States to clearly endorse the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and pledged support for an Arab League committee's efforts to end the Lebanese civil war.

A final statement issued at the conclusion of the summit of the heads of state of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen also called for the full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 for a comprehensive peace agreement between Iran

and Iraq after eight years of war.

The statement said the next summit of the ACC would be held in Amman in February 1990. The ACC focus on the Palestinian problem was underscored by the unscheduled participation in part of the summit deliberations by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The final statement pledged "unwavering and continued support" for the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and reaffirmed the ACC leaders' backing for the Palestinian people's struggle to achieve their "full right to sovereignty and independence."

The ACC leaders reaffirmed

their endorsement of any decision by the PLO leadership to achieve the Palestinian national goals. It reiterated the Arab call for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

The communiqué did not refer to any specific formulas or initiatives, including the Egyptian proposal for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and Cairo's 10-point clarification move over Israel's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

As the four leaders emerged from deliberations, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told reporters: "If we do not reach agreement on everything we discuss, we leave it for future deliberations."

(Continued on page 2)

Kidnapped Palestinian found killed in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The body of a 30-year-old Palestinian was found in the occupied West Bank town of Nablus a day after he was kidnapped by masked men, Palestinian reporters said.

The army displayed tanks, mobile missile launchers, armoured vehicles, which jet fighters and helicopters flew overhead.

Earlier, ministers from the four countries signed 12 agreements covering cooperation in various areas.

The leaders in their first session Monday unanimously ratified 16 accords.

The accords enhance cooperation in the following fields:

— Agriculture and irrigation, industry, labour, housing and construction.

— Strategies for imports and exports and expanding trade exchanges.

— Communications and transport including maritime transport.

— Culture, information, education and health.

— Crime-fighting including drug abuse and smuggling, counterfeiting and financial crimes.

— Justice and Islamic endowments.

— Financial and fiscal matters.

The agreements also created a joint parliamentary committee comprising 15 members from each country, and unifying of consular representation.

The King and the delegation accompanying him to the summit returned home late Tuesday.

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The verdict said that Efrak had no "intention" of causing death and that "regular criminal punishment considerations could not apply in this case."

The court also sentenced 22-year-old Ezzat Mahmud Shabban of Gaza to life in prison Tuesday for the Aug. 4 death of two fellow Palestinian prisoners for allegedly collaborating with Israel.

Police questioned eight Jewish settlers on suspicion of firebombing Israeli property and stoning settlers to stir up anti-Arab sentiments, a police spokesman said Monday.

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Police said a total of eight Israeli men and women settlers had been detained Sunday and Monday.

"We have intelligence that the incidents in January and February in Givat Shomron and Ariel were carried out by residents of Ariel," he said.

Israel radio said some of those detained belonged to a local committee of the pro-settlement Tehiya Party which holds three seats in the parliament.

There were also unconfirmed reports in the Israeli media that Ariel settlers were leading vigilante groups in the northern part of the West Bank.

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Lebanese army soldiers and officials welcome the passengers of first Middle East Airline to land since the Beirut airport closed on March 11.

Militia chiefs reject reform plan; Beirut truce holds

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Militia chieftains poured cold water Tuesday on proposed political reforms aimed at ending Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war as an Arab League envoy met legislators to discuss peace efforts.

Police said a three-day-old ceasefire, which halted six months of fighting that pulled the Syrian army and allied militiamen with army chief Michel Aoun's forces was "generally holding" with no serious violations.

Sporadic sniper fire cracked along Beirut's dividing green line, but that was become a daily ritual.

Walid Junblatt, leader of the Druze-led Progressive Socialist Party, declared: "The military battle is not over yet and will not be finished on the basis of a new sectarian compromise contained in the committee's draft plan."

His remarks, published by the independent Al Nahar daily, reflected the deep-rooted hostility between Syria's leftist allies and the Christians who have long dominated Lebanon's political system.

Shiite Muslim militia chieftain Nabil Berri also criticised the proposed reforms, which aim to split power equally, saying they were "not enough."

"The constitution which they want to change gives us more than the Arab committee's plan for reforms," he said in a statement.

It did not elaborate. But Aoun,

a Maronite, was believed to be pushing the Christian deputies not to give too much away in Saudi Arabia.

The venue was selected because it will allow the deputies to discuss the reforms far from any pressure by the powerful militia leaders.

The militias do not have representatives in parliament, which was elected in 1972. The civil war has prevented elections and the house has regularly renewed its four-year mandate.

Papal appeal to Muslims

Pope John Paul has made an unprecedented, impassioned appeal to all Muslims to save Lebanon, saying an entire people was dying while the world looked on.

"The eyes of the world behold a ravaged land, where human life no longer seems to count," the pontiff said.

The appeal, which Vatican officials said was the first by a Pope to all Muslims, coincided with an apostolic letter to the whole Roman Catholic Church calling for a world day of prayer for Lebanon.

Both documents were sent on Sept. 7, the latest ceasefire took effect in Lebanon.

"An end must be put to what must truly be called the massacre of an entire people... a country now on the road to total destruction," the pontiff said in the apostolic letter.

He did not elaborate. But Aoun,

the committee's draft plan."

Ministers were reported close to a deal Monday on raising the production ceiling, but then hit some snags forcing them to postpone formal discussions.

Their negotiations — most taking place in their rooms at a luxury Geneva hotel

King Fahd vows war on terrorism

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — King Fahd has vowed an unwavering war on terrorists, stressing his government's resolve to execute whoever tries to undermine security in the holy places of Islam.

"The kingdom will not retreat as much as a hair's breadth from extracting Hodood (God's punishment)... on whoever tries to tamper with the sanctity of the Islam's holiest shrines or tries to undermine security in the country," the king said.

"We will accept no blame in our quest to uphold justice. We will not heed the false propaganda campaigns," he said, in a reference to anti-Saudi pronouncements from Iran.

Saudi Arabia is governed by Shari'a, Koranic Law that prescribes beheading for convicted murderers, saboteurs and whoever desecrates holy shrines. The punishments are known as Hodood, which also sentences adulterers to death by stoning and thieves to having their hands cut off.

King Fahd made the warning during a cabinet meeting, according to a statement by Information Minister Ali Al Shaer distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency.

ACC urges U.S. to take positive stand

(Continued from page 1)

The Egyptian leader's remark, coupled with the summit communiqué's reference to the U.S., was taken to mean that the Egyptian initiatives will enjoy the full support of the other three ACC members only if the PLO endorses them totally.

However, Mubarak's political advisor Osama Al Baz explained to reporters earlier that Cairo did not see the initiatives as "peace plans" but only as a "quest for clarifications."

"As such, no support is called for," he said.

The ACC leaders expressed "hope that the U.S. administration take a more positive stand, and a clearer one, on the Palestinian people's right to self-deter-

mination preparatory to convening an international peace conference on clear bases that would guarantee its success, as desired by the entire international community," the communiqué said.

Skirting the harsh-hitting words that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein used against Syria in his address to the summit Monday, the final communiqué said the ACC leaders emphasised the necessity of the withdrawal of all "non-Lebanese forces" from Lebanon.

On the Gulf front, the summit called for full implementation of Resolution 598 and backed Iraq's call for "ending the plight of prisoners of war that international law prevents from being used as pawns." It also supported Iraq's demand for sovereignty

over the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

The ACC leaders welcomed the election of Egyptian President Mubarak as chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and expressed hope that the Egyptian role in the OAU would contribute to settling the conflicts in Africa, particularly the dispute between Mauritania and Senegal and the Eritrean problem and helping Namibia achieve its independence.

The four leaders pledged their "full support for the struggle of the African majority (against apartheid) in South Africa."

The ACC summit welcomed the East-West "political and military detente and efforts being made to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons."

At the summit, the ACC leaders had agreed to end six months of the country's worst fighting in 14 years of war.

The broadcast interrupted a neighbour offering condolences to the family on Samir's death, hours before Saturday's ceasefire, voice shaking with emotion.

Khali Shaker gave his family an instruction: "Slaughter our best sheep and invite all the neighbourhood for today has become a feast in Lebanon."

Mounir held Samir's black-and-white portrait above her head and waved it left and right in an emotional display of her sorrow for his death a day before the ceasefire.

At least 830 people have been killed and 3,400 wounded since

fighting erupted in March after army chief General Michel Aoun vowed to expel Syria's 33,000 troops from Lebanon.

Although hundreds of ceasefire fires have failed to end the country's 14 years of war, Lebanese appear to believe that the latest peace effort, sponsored by the Arab League, will succeed in silencing the guns — at least for a while.

The local media said some 50,000 people have returned to the battered capital to inspect their homes and properties. At least half of Beirut's 1.5 million population had fled the city's battles.

"Mummy, mummy look, our house wasn't hit," said Rawan pulling at her mother's dress to drag her home. "Look, look that's my doll."

Her mother kneeled down and kissed the ground.

Hundreds of shops reopened, their windows filled with goods that had been removed and hidden for fear they would be damaged by shells or stolen.

Traffic policemen reappeared on street crossings, vainly trying to discipline Beirut's traffic. Workers at restaurants cleaned tables and mopped floors and cinemas advertised new films.

Rubbish collectors picked up piles of rat-infested garbage the smell from which had filled the city's air and attracted swarms of mosquitoes and bugs.

"The problem is that we Lebanese forget very quickly and adapt. It's good in a way because it helps us survive, but it is also a curse because people who forget and adapt to events will never revolt," he said.



Two Lebanese fighters rest near a rocket launcher in West Beirut as ceasefire takes hold in Lebanon

An end to crying in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — "There will be no more crying in this house and no one is to wear black any more."

The voice of the bereaved father, Khalil Shaker, trembled as he told his family that peace had, at last, come to Lebanon.

It was one day too late for his son, 26-year-old Samir.

"I hope Samir is the last son a mother loses in the war in Lebanon," Khalil's wife, Mounirah said as tears streamed down her cheeks.

The radio, which so often had sounded the warning of fresh shelling and bloodshed, brought to the Shaker house the news that rival forces in Lebanon had agreed to end six months of the country's worst fighting in 14 years of war.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Military helicopter crashes in Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — A military helicopter crashed on Babilian Island in the northern end of the Gulf Tuesday, killing the pilot and injuring his co-pilot, the Defence Ministry announced. It identified the dead man as Mosilah Mohammad Muslih Al Moteie and said the accident occurred while he was on a routine training mission. It did not mention what caused the crash on the island, which lies about 120 kilometres northeast of Kuwait City. The island, which lies close to Iraq's Al-Faw peninsula, has a Kuwaiti military garrison.

Israel: 'Heart attack' prisoner fit for jail

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army said Tuesday that a Palestinian in a desert prison camp reported by Amnesty International in need of urgent medical attention after heart attacks was fit to be detained there. The London-based human rights organisation last week expressed concern over the health of Palestinian political prisoner Badran Jaber. 42 Badran, a schoolteacher from Hebron in the occupied West Bank, had suffered two heart attacks since last June, Amnesty said. But an official military source said checks by Israeli hospital doctors and the medical officers of southern command and the Ketziot prison camp "stated that he is fit to stay in the detention camp." The Palestinian human rights group Al Haq and Jaber's Israeli lawyer Tamar Peleg have said that Badran had suffered two heart attacks. Jaber has been held in continuous detention without trial since March 1988.

Beirut-Cairo flights resume

CAIRO (R) — The first passenger flight from Lebanon to Egypt in more than six months was due to land in Cairo Tuesday following the reopening of Beirut airport, a spokeswoman for Middle East Airlines said. Beirut international airport, Lebanon's only commercial airport, reopened Sunday after Lebanon's warring factions agreed to a ceasefire. It was closed March 11. The spokeswoman for the Lebanese airline said the Middle East Airlines flight would bring passengers into Cairo before taking off again for Beirut one hour later. Aircraft began flying into Beirut as soon as the airport reopened Sunday.

Sudan claims many rebels surrendering

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military strongman claims large numbers of southern rebels have been surrendering to the army after deciding they have no reason to continue their civil war. Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, speaking Monday to officers and men of the army's 7th armoured division in Khartoum, gave no numbers for the alleged capitulations and provided no proof. "Great numbers of the rebels have started to turn in themselves and their weapons to the army garrisons after they felt the destruction and the displacement caused by the war," Bashir said. Bashir told his troops that "everyone has the right to follow his religion without being forced by another not to apply the laws of his religion."

Chad to offer amnesty to thousands

KHARTOUM (AP) — Chad's government will offer amnesties to thousands of armed dissidents living in neighbouring Sudan if they return home, that country's foreign minister was quoted as saying Tuesday. Acheikh Ibn Oumar, on an official visit to Sudan, told Sudanese newspapers that his government was prepared to pardon the opposition elements and welcome them home. Sudan's military government is mediating between President Hissene Habre's government and the Sudan-based dissidents.

Turks caught between assimilation in Bulgaria and hardship in Turkey

By Roland Prinz
Associated Press

previous jobs and homes, partly due to an acute labour shortage in some areas that has prompted authorities to shift manual labour to crucial construction projects and industries.

A Turkish diplomat said here that ethnic Turks "still want to leave Bulgaria as vigorously as before."

"You can see for yourself. There are some 2,000 people waiting around our consulate every day," the diplomat said.

Some 320,000 of Bulgaria's 1.5 million ethnic Turks began in mid-year to stream from Bulgaria to Turkey. Some were deported from Bulgaria. Others emigrated under new liberalised passport regulations.

Many had their possessions seized before being allowed to cross into Turkey, and their arrival strained Turkish abilities to absorb them.

On Aug. 22, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal closed the border to the ethnic Turks, requiring them to obtain regular visas. His move, part of a vain attempt to convince Bulgaria to safeguard the property of those seeking to settle in Turkey, was widely seen as a diplomatic victory for Sofia.

Several diplomats in Sofia asserted that an additional 500,000 ethnic Turks in all may want to emigrate to Turkey.

"With the numbers we have given out for visa applicants, we are already in the mid-1990s," Maldenov asserted that there are no Turks in Bulgaria.

A tour of some villages in the Razgrad area, some 430 kilometres north east of Sofia, shows the extent of the recent migration.

In one of them, Beli Lom, a reporter found many farmhouses barricaded, and windows covered with newspapers to keep outsiders from peering in.

"Of 400 families, 300 left"

for Turkey, said one of a hand-

ful of farmers there. The situation is similar in many other villages in the district.

In Mortagonovo, another

predominantly Turkish village, a frail man in his late 70s was sitting on a bench.

Asked whether he was plan-

ning to leave, the man, speaking in halting Bulgarian, replied: "I sold my house before I left. Now I'm staying with my son."

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Temporary accommodation for refugees in Edirne

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

18:31 Maghreb Isha

19:49 Koran

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Programme review

15:45 Children's programmes

17:00 Education programme

17:38 News summaries in Arabic

18:05 Cairo News Message

18:25 Local programme

19:28 Programme review

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Arabic series

21:40 Local programme

22:25 Wrestling

23:10 Varieties programme

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Story

18:30 Des Chiffres Et Des Lettres

19:00 News in French

19:15 Documentary

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 News in English

22:20 Best seller: "Master of the Game"

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

05:05 Fair

06:25 (Source) Dafa

12:27 Dhuhr

15:52 'Aar

PRAYER TIMES

It will be fair and winds will be northerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 13/25

Aqaba 22/33

Desert 14/32

Jordan Valley 21/33

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Zain Zaghloul 638591

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Amman International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 61293

News in Hebrew

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

NORTH YEMEN CONGRATULATED: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday cabled congratulations to North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on his country's National Day anniversary. Prince Hassan wished the president good health and the people progress and prosperity.

CONDOLENCES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has delegated the Jerash district governor to convey condolences to the Rimawi family on the death of Mahmoud Al Jabi Rimawi. (Petra)

LOAN REDUCED: The Cabinet Tuesday decided to reduce the value of a \$26.5 million loan offered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to \$21.5 million. At a session chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadah, the Cabinet also approved the National Medical Institution's employment plan. A total of 1,105 posts will be created to meet the institution's requirements for medical and administrative staff. According to the table, 1,608 posts will be retained from the University of Jordan to be attached to the NMI.

EXHIBITION: Under the patronage of Minister of Culture and Information Nasour Al Majali, an art exhibition by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Hadidi will be opened Sunday Oct. 1 at the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition, entitled "Nature and Man," runs through Oct. 8. (J.T.)

HOUSING TALKS: Jordan will be taking part in a two-day meeting by the Council of Ministers of Housing and Reconstruction which opens in Tunis Tuesday. Housing Corporation Director Youssef Hiyasat, who is representing Jordan at the meeting, said the question of protecting the holy places in occupied Jerusalem will be among the topics to be discussed.

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday endorsing the regulations on doctors fees, working days and hours, holidays and annual leaves. (Petra)

MAN JAILED FOR PRICE MANIPULATION: The military governor has endorsed the military court's verdict, sentencing Abdulla Abdul Fattah Jaber to one month in prison and a fine of JD 50 after finding him guilty of manipulation of prices. (Petra)

EMERGENCY EXERCISE: Teams from the Civil Aviation Authority, Civil Defence Department, National Medical Institution, Public Security Department, the Armed Forces, Royal Jordanian Air Force and the Royal Jordanian Tuesday carried out a mock emergency exercise to test the readiness of the participating bodies to cope with any emergency at the Queen Alia International Airport. (Petra)

67,562 TO VOTE IN KARAK: A total of 67,562 voters in Karak governorate will cast their votes in the forthcoming parliamentary elections which will be held on Nov. 8, according to Karak Governor Ismail Al Zaben. In Irbid, the governor, Jawdat Al Sbou, has invited Irbid constituency into 64 polling districts and has allocated 227 polling centres for male and female voters. (Petra)

MA'AN TO MARK WORLD CHILD DAY: Ma'an Governorate holds a celebration Monday to mark the World Child Day and the Arab Child Week. The celebration will be held at Princess Basma Social Services Centre. (Petra)

CHARITY MARCH: The Friends of Archaeology Friday organised a charity march, aimed at raising funds for supporting a number of archaeological projects and treating disabled children, attending a care-home run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. (Petra)

A NUMBER OF ZARQA BAKERIES CLOSED: A number of bakeries and patisseries in Zarqa were closed Tuesday for violating the Public Safety Committee's regulations and using raw vegetable oil. (Petra)

WADI AL ARAB SPRINGS PROJECT COMPLETED: The municipality of North Shuneh announced Tuesday the completion of the second and final stage of a project to develop the Wadi Al Arab mineral springs. North Shuneh Mayor Mohammad Sari said that the second phase, financed by a JD 300,000 loan from the Arab Cities Organisation, comprises a swimming pool, chalets for visitors, a mosque and other facilities. Yarmouk University has helped to plant 10,000 trees around the project and other improvements were made in the second stage, Sari noted. He said that the municipality opened a mineral water swimming pool in 1987 adjoining a restaurant and other public utilities as a first stage in implementing the tourist project. The first stage, he said, cost JD 200,000. (Petra)

5 EMBEZZLERS JAILED: The military court has sentenced five people to serve prison terms with hard labour for plotting to carry out criminal actions and embezzle public funds. A court statement said that Abdul Rahim Abu Kheit, Maher Abdul Rahim, Saleh Abdul Halim and Naser Ibrahim were all sentenced to five years in prison with hard labour, while Hisham Majed Mungbel Samrin was sentenced to four years with hard labour on a similar charge. The court fined Usama Abu Khalaf JD 200 for manipulating poultry meat prices. The court also imposed a JD 200 fine on three other merchants for manipulating the prices of consumer goods. The military governor has endorsed the sentences. (Petra)

LOAN FOR SHIDIEH MINES PROJECT: The Cabinet Tuesday agreed to grant a JD 8 million dinar loan, provided by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, to Jordan Phosphate Mines Company to help it finance the Shidieh Phosphate Mines project. (Petra)

ACC SPORTS: Jordan will participate in meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of youth and sports due to convene in Baghdad Oct. 5. The ministers will discuss sporting and youth activities in the ACC countries and means to coordinate activities. (Petra)

Arab surgeons begin conference today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Some 500 doctors and surgeons from around the Arab World will gather in Amman Wednesday for a three-day conference organised by the Federation of Arab Surgeons which groups 16 Arab states.

A total of 50 working papers are expected to be reviewed by the delegates dealing with various specialisations in surgery, and will examine medical appliances and medicines on display at a special exhibition to run throughout the conference.

Federation Secretary General Hassan Khreis said that the conference which has been organised

in cooperation with the Jordanian Surgeons Society (JSS) was bound to serve as a further step towards bolstering cooperation among Arab surgeons and doctors.

The federation seeks to set up other specialised bodies within the medical fields in the Arab World, Khreis said in a statement on the eve of the conference.

The JSS was created in Jordan in 1973 with the purpose of promoting the work of Jordanian surgeons.

According to Khreis, 28 of the working papers to be reviewed have been prepared by Jordanian doctors and surgeons.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An Indian photographic exhibition — "Jawabariah Nekru, His Life and Times" — at the Students Activities Complex, University of Jordan.
- * A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarfs and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).
- * An exhibition of watercolours on Jordan by Salam Kanaan at Al Wasiti Art Gallery — 6:30 p.m.

Over 100 recuperating after hospital food poisoning

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — At least 100 staff members of the Jordan University Hospital remained hospitalized Tuesday after developing symptoms of food poisoning and initial investigations appear to rule out "bad frozen meat" as the cause.

"The condition of those still in hospital is moderate," said Hussain Al Manssour, deputy director of the hospital. "We already discharged 18 people this morning and another group will be discharged later today," he told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview Tuesday afternoon, 36 hours after the cases were reported.

According to Muhtaseb, the total number of people who sought treatment after developing food poisoning symptoms — diarrhoea and high fever — early Monday was between 100 and 150. But other sources said the figure was more like 170.

According to hospital staff who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, all of the affected people — nurses, doctors and other staff members — had lunch at the hospital cafeteria Sunday. Initial indications pointed to "bad frozen meat" which was unfrozen and frozen again before being cooked," said one staff member who said he did not take lunch at the cafeteria Sunday.

But, Muhtaseb appeared to reject the suggestions. "Some of the affected people did not eat meat at all Sunday's lunch," he pointed out. "Our special committees have launched inquiries and we will examine every aspect of the case," he said.

Sunday's lunch at the cafeteria consisted of steak, peas, potato salad and yogurt, staff members said. On a normal day, lunch is prepared for about 1,200 people, including hospital staff and patients.

According to Muhtaseb, "less than 10" in-patients at the hospital were affected in the case.

Muhtaseb was quoted as saying in the local press Tuesday that the cafeteria, as a rule,



Crown Prince visits hospital

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday paid a surprise visit to the Jordan University Hospital, where over 100 doctors, nurses and patients are being treated from food poisoning. In an interview with Jordan Television, Prince Hassan called for learning a lesson from the painful experience that some people have encountered as a result of the chlorine gas leakage in Zarqa and the food poisoning at the University Hospital.

Prince Hassan stressed the need for observing environmental safety and said that safety of citizens requires the cooperation of all sectors concerned. He underlined the importance of observing public safety requirements. The crown prince called for maintaining good standards of service at restaurants and hospitals. (Petra)

disposed off left-overs and thus no actual food samples were available for tests. In all probability, said Muhtaseb, "the cause (of the poisoning) was pollution or a microbe," but tests will have to pinpoint the exact cause.

The first case was reported eight hours after the meal was consumed, he said and pointed out that in most food poisoning cases the symptoms develop in two or three hours. "In the cases of microbes, it takes several hours to spread and interact with the digestive system," he was quoted as saying.

According to medical sources, the effect of the ailment varied in intensity from patient to patient, indicating that those who consumed the food first could have been affected more severely than those who followed.

First reports said 65 people were affected, but Muhtaseb said the hospital received more cases Tuesday.

Jihad Al Ajlouni, a student in the Faculty of Medicine at the university, who spoke to the local press from his hospital

bed, said he developed stomachache around 10 p.m. Sunday, more than 10 hours after taking lunch at the Jordan University Hospital cafeteria.

"I threw up and rushed to the emergency department of the hospital at midnight," he was quoted as saying. He was immediately admitted and his stomach samples were taken for lab tests.

Iyad Al Kailani, who works at the Department of Pharmacy at the university, said he developed symptoms at midnight Sunday/Monday with stomach aches and dizziness. The pain was very severe and he was taken to the emergency department, and "after checks, it appeared to be poisoning," he said.

Diana Khoury, another hospital employee who said she only had salad and fruits for Sunday's lunch, said she started feeling stomach pain and weariness at 5 a.m. Monday and was hospitalised.

Results of tests conducted on the affected people were expected Tuesday.

Jordan expects positive results in oil exploration, Jreisat says

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Jordan expects its endeavour to find oil to yield positive results and help the country attain self sufficiency in various oil products, Natural Resources Authority (NRA) Director General Kamal Jreisat said here Tuesday.

"The quest for oil in Jordan is a national demand in view of the Kingdom's highly expensive oil bill and the country's great dependence on oil products for its various needs," Jreisat noted in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, in Damascus.

Jreisat, who Monday began talks with Syrian officials on cooperation in oil related fields, said that between 1975 and 1988 Jordan paid JD 1.7 billion in hard currency for oil imports from Arab countries. Therefore the Kingdom is hoping, through the efforts of the NRA teams and specialists, and with help from oil companies, to produce sufficient

oil for its future needs.

Jreisat said that Jordan and Syria were due to conclude agreements that would pave the way for bilateral cooperation in geological fields and oil exploration programmes.

"Cooperation could shortly involve Jordan, Iraq and Syria, which have common borders bordering the 'Ratbeh' region rich with mineral resources such as oil, gas and other minerals," Jreisat noted.

Syria has a wealth of information about oil and oil expertise and ways to exploit mineral resources, and these can be added to those of the NRA and its experience over the past 21 years.

In an interview published Monday, Jreisat said that the NRA was embarking on a new phase of work and activities in the course of implementing its national oil

exploration strategy in the Kingdom, and would encourage foreign oil companies to help Jordan find oil and natural gas.

In his statement, Jreisat said that Jordan was determined to carry out its Dead Sea chemical complex project in order to produce important minerals essential for its national economy.

The Dead Sea, he said, is rich in salts and minerals estimated at 45 billion tonnes. But the implementation of the project, he said, requires cooperation with other Arab states, Jreisat noted.

According to the Jordanian Industrial Consortium Engineering Company, which operates the Dead Sea project, the plan and the general appraisal of the complex has now been completed and detailed techno-economic feasibility study was due to begin before the end of September.



Course on assessment of projects ends

AMMAN (J.T.) — Twenty people from government departments and private institutions in Jordan as well as a number of Arab countries Tuesday graduated after completing a training course on "administration and assessment of industrial projects" held at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS). During the four-week course, the participants studied subjects related to financial and economic analysis necessary for adminis-

tration and assessment of industrial projects. They also tackled issues related to studies of markets, public administration, and priorities of investment projects. This course, held for the sixth year running, has been successful as it brought fruitful results locally and on the Arab levels. The course was organised by the RSS Economic Research Centre in cooperation with the World Bank.

APU voices total support for uprising

ALECSO urges world support for Palestinian rights, freedom struggle

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman-based Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) Tuesday issued an appeal to the world community to stand by the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and to help the oppressed people's struggle for freedom.

achieve a lasting peace settlement in the Gulf region in implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The statement also called on Arab governments to provide protection to agricultural land by reducing excessive use of pesticides and chemicals, and to improve measures for industries in rural regions.

The statement called for more cooperation between Arab countries such as the U.N. Fund for Population Activities (FPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to help deal with population problems in the Arab World.

The statement voiced the parliamentarians' call for reviving a pan-Arab economic strategy endorsed by the 1980 Arab summit in Amman; and called on Arab states to adopt a unified stand with regard to the question of Arab debts to foreign banks and other countries.

The statement called for the mobilisation of the Arab and international public opinion to exercise pressure on Iran to end its occupation of the occupied lands.

Jordan was represented at the

APU's three-day meeting which was attended by delegates from 14 Arab countries.

"The Arab Nation should embark on mobilising the world public opinion against Israeli measures which include detention of Arab citizens, deportation of Arab youth, demolishing of Arab homes and inhuman treatment of Arab citizens as a whole," said a statement which was issued at the end of the meeting in Damascus.

The statement voiced strong condemnation of Israel's repressive measures and human rights violations and urged all peace-loving nations to help the Palestinians regain their rights.

ALECSO's appeal coincided with a call by the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) on Arab governments to take a firmer stand in the face of Israel's arbitrary measures against the Palestinians and the building of Jewish settlements.

Jordan was represented at the

UNICEF to hold Education For All preparatory meeting in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will hold a preparatory meeting in Amman in November to prepare the ground for the Education For All Conference which will be held in Thailand next year.

A statement by UNICEF regional office here said that the conference, which is being organised in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) will be attended by world leaders and heads of various international organisations.

The 1990 conference will tackle issues related to education for all people without any discrimination, the statement said.

The world has millions of illiterate people who missed the chance of early education and this has affected the standard of their living in their own countries, the statement added.

It said that the world economic crises have contributed towards

aggravating the situation and were responsible for implementing economic projects. "For this reason a world gathering is urgently needed to deal with the situation."

Education for all, the statement noted, is a joint effort which should be shouldered by countries working together and in cooperation with world organisations, and it is of utmost importance for governments to cooperate to ensure the basic requirements of education and to make the coming conference a success.

Shamir rejects Cairo call for dialogue

(Continued from page 1)

He goes to Washington over the weekend for what Egyptian officials term the most crucial part of the trip.

It's crucial in the sense that it may make or break current peace efforts involving the dialogue proposal, Israel's plan for Palestinian elections and Mubarak's 10-point formula to spruce up that plan," said a senior government official.

Mubarak's active involvement in Middle East peacemaking

turned Cairo into a diplomatic beehive this year. In September alone, the capital hosted Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat three times and Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson.

In February, Mubarak arranged for visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to meet separately in Cairo with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and with Arafat.

During his New York stop this week, Mubarak will meet with Shevardnadze, Arens and Fi-

PLO calls for 'struggle economy'

(Continued from page 1

Jordan Times

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Step-by-step towards unity

THE SANAA summit of the leaders of the four member states of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) is the third in the course of only eight months. The first was in Baghdad in February when His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh met and founded the ACC. The second was in Alexandria in June when the four leaders set in motion the aspirations and objectives of the ACC by enacting a series of agreements. Now the four leaders are meeting in Sanaa to lay the groundwork for a common market and to build on what has already been achieved in a relatively short time by signing yet a series of agreements on trade, commerce, travel, education and sports.

The fact that the four heads of state have met so often in a relatively short time proves that the formation and consolidation of the ACC is on course and at full speed. That does not mean that the work necessary for its operation has been done and finished with. On the contrary, what remains to be done and accomplished is much more demanding and strenuous. First and foremost is the implementation stage of course. It is one thing to reach agreements on a set of subjects and quite another to enforce these agreements. The history and experience of the Arab League is full of evidence that not everything agreed upon ended up implemented. To be sure, there is every indication that the ACC will not suffer from the negative experiences of the Arab League. The ACC's step-by-step approach towards a greater degree of unity is its insurance policy against extravaganza in aspirations and objectives.

The involvement of the heads of state in every step of the way in the decision-making is also another guarantee that all matters and issues agreed upon will be respected and observed. That is why holding three summits in a row and within just eight months is solid proof that the watchful eyes of the chief executives of North Yemen, Iraq, Egypt and Jordan are constantly on the development and operation of the Arab Cooperation Council. The only missing link in the whole equation is the secretariat of the ACC which has yet to take its definitive form and shape. In this vein, what is needed is a dynamic secretariat manned by well-educated and deeply-motivated personnel. Without a spirited secretariat, the ACC cannot hope to translate its decisions into deeds.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AL RA'I Arabic daily on Tuesday discussed the current meeting in Sanaa by the heads of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries who will discuss issues of concern to their countries and those that have direct bearing on events in the Arab World. There is no doubt that the situation in the Gulf, the Lebanese civil war and measures to help the Palestinian people pursue their struggle for freedom, will be reviewed by the Arab leaders, said the paper. King Hussein and the presidents of Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen have already approved 16 agreements covering economic, parliamentary and labour related affairs; and this is considered an important step taking the four countries to a new stage of practical work that will contribute to the ongoing process of integration, the paper said. The continuing meetings and the decisions taken by the four heads of state display their determination on pursuing the implementation of their earlier resolutions and pave the way for a new era of fruitful cooperation within the Arab region, said the paper. It said that the Arab masses look with hope to Sanaa and watch with great interest the outcome of the deliberations which can only aim at serving the higher national interests.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily tackles the question of the garbage dump close to the highway linking Amman with Zarqa. Rakan Al Majali, who is also chief editor of Al Ra'i, says that the dump is visited almost every night by groups of people who try to pick up different things from the accumulated waste with the hope of selling them and making money. Apart from the fact that their actions cause a great deal of inconvenience to the passing cars and travellers along the road, digging through the garbage dump causes bad smell spreading all around and creates a filthy ground for insects and diseases, the writer notes. He says that several groups of people living near the nearby refugee camp and Al Hussein, Faisali, Al Jundi and other districts not far off from the camp, have been visiting Al Ra'i offices to voice their complaints, urging the media to approach the concerned authorities and the municipality to deal with the problem. The writer stresses that the dump is located in the wrong place and suggests that the municipality move it far off towards the eastern semi desert areas where it would be more difficult for scavengers to reach and where it would be away from the main road linking two important population centres.

For its part, Al Dustour daily newspaper commented on the accords concluded by the heads of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries, and said that the accords will no doubt contribute to the ongoing integration process. The agreements which were prepared by working groups and officials, cover cooperation in informational, touristic, economic and educational fields; and are in conformity with the principles and objectives of the Arab League which was established to help bring about unity among the Arab states, the paper said. It is clear that the heads of the ACC hold identical views on the questions discussed and are determined to pursue the same course of action in matters of concern to their peoples, said Al Dustour. There is no doubt, the paper added, that the talks these leaders will hold on the situation in Lebanon, Palestine and the Gulf will eventually lead to a united stand; and later, to a joint action, serving the whole Arab Nation.

'One Germany' debated as changes sweep Europe

By Kevin Costelloe

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, West Germany — Thirty-four years ago, a West German politician said German reunification was a "sleeping lioness" that would awaken one day with a mighty roar.

Lately, there's growing talk that reunification may no longer be the nostalgic daydream it once seemed and that both Germanys could conceivably merge into a political and economic giant in the heart of Europe.

"Reunification is coming closer, but I can't say whether it will take 10, 15 or 20 years," says West German conservative politician Eduard Lintner. "We have the impression that things are much more concrete than we could have imagined five years ago."

The sight of thousands of refugees fleeing East German leader Erich Honecker's hard-line Communist rule for the capitalist West has revived international interest in the debate. Some wonder whether, if East Germany's people want to unite with the federal republic and political conditions in Eastern Europe continue to ease, a union of the two Germanys might truly be possible.

The idea of German reunification has gotten a public nod from U.S. President George Bush and something short of a flat "no" from Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev. However, the idea still makes East German leaders virtually apoplectic.

"If there were a free choice under the present circumstances in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), certainly 80 per cent to 90 per cent would vote for national reunification with the Federal Republic of Germany," Lintner asserted in an Associated Press interview.

The West German constitution advocates a United Germany as a national goal. However, full reunification would completely rework the post-war European

order mapped out by the conquering allies.

After two world wars, in which Germans wreaked havoc on their neighbours, there's an undeniable legacy of fear about a reunified Germany. That's especially true in the Soviet Union and Poland, which suffered the most from the Nazi invasion but also gained former German lands in the aftermath.

London's prestigious Sunday Times on Sept. 10 mapped out a possible scenario for reunification that includes massive troop reductions in Europe, Honecker's demise and further Westernisation of Poland and Hungary.

Neutrality?

"Moscow unilaterally abolishes the Warsaw Pact after guarantees from Poland and Hungary they will not join other alliances," the Times' futuristic view continued. "West Germany withdraws from NATO; and a referendum in both East and West Germany votes for reunification and neutrality."

Lintner, 44, a parliament member who monitors intra-German issues for conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl, said West Germans would insist on preserving their democratic system and membership in the European Economic Community, if neutrality were a condition for reunification.

Publisher Rudolf Augstein, commenting in a recent issue of the *Der Spiegel* newsmagazine, suggested some pitfalls: "There's no doubt that a speedy uniting of the two German states would shift the weight in Europe, could undermine NATO and put into danger the EEC, which already is a truly wobbly thing."

Augstein also described as "unreasonable" any suggestion that a neutral Germany could be guaranteed by U.S.-Soviet treaty.

The West German constitution advocates a United Germany as a national goal. However, full reunification would completely rework the post-war European

Germans accepting reunification under present circumstances.

"A Federal republic whose democratic and Western quality was not assured would reject a reunification offer," Janning said. "For German policy as well as for the people in the federal republic, the standard of living is fundamentally much more important than unity."

It is assumed that West Germany, with a population of 62 million, would have to bear the financial burden of improving living standards for East Germany's 18 million citizens if the countries were to merge.

West Germany and East Germany were formed in 1949 from the rubble of World War II, as the cold war divided Europe into a pair of tense and heavily armed camps.

The implications of pulling down the Berlin Wall and other barriers to link the two German states are enormous and, for

many, ominous.

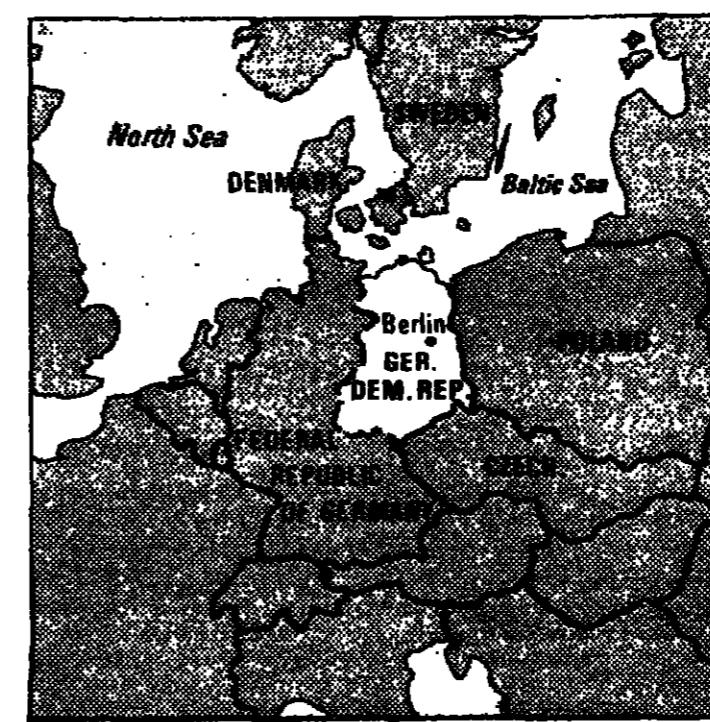
Much of Western Europe, which includes West Germany, plans its own reunification in 1992. But a reunified Germany might undo economic and political cooperation achieved by the European Community.

The economic centre of gravity might shift to the German side with a powerhouse of 80 million people. West Germany is already Europe's largest exporting nation, and despite its flaws, East Germany's economy is the envy of its Soviet bloc partners.

Many voices

Outside Germany, voices are divided on reunifications.

Eva Kulesza, head of research for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe at the French Institute of International Relations, says she believes public opinion has shown a "new sort of mistrust toward



Brazilian teenagers anxious for elections

By Todd Lewan

The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — For the past several months, 16-year-old Marcio Santos Martins says he's had more on his mind than high school, surfing or girls.

He says he has been closely following the campaigns of nine presidential candidates and preparing to vote in the Nov. 15 elections, the first time that Brazilians under age 18 will be allowed to cast ballots.

"Why shouldn't I be excited?" Martins said. "Just because I'm 16 doesn't mean I'm not politically mature or take voting seriously."

Martins is one of millions of 16- and 17-year-olds who, under new guidelines passed this year, will be able to vote in Brazil's first direct presidential election in 29 years.

By lowering the voting age, Brazil became the only country in the world other than Nicaragua to give voting rights to people as young as 16.

The law change should not dramatically affect the election's outcome. Just 4.5 million Brazilians under 18 — less than 6 per cent of the total voting population of 81.5 million — registered by the Aug. 6 deadline, according to the government's supreme electoral tribunal.

In addition, none of the presidential front-runners have made special drives to attract voters under 18.

But the voting experiment has sparked harsh debate across this country of 144 million people on

the role teenagers should play in society.

"Young Brazilians today are being confronted with reality at an earlier age," said Helena Quadri, director of the McCann-Erickson research and planning department in Sao Paulo, Brazil's biggest city.

"They are more equipped to make such decisions at their age than teenagers of past generations."

In Brazil, 16-year-olds can legally work, pay taxes, marry and open their own bank accounts, she said.

Young people, though aware of the economic strains imposed by Brazil's \$110-billion foreign debt, the Third World's largest, overwhelmingly blame corrupt government officials for the nation's problems, according to a recent survey of youths between 15 and 24 in Rio and Sao Paulo.

Supporters also say television, radio and a stronger educational system have produced a generation that is better-informed and prepared to take on the responsibility of voting than young people 30 years ago.

Allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote will help cement democracy in Brazil's nascent republic and discourage the young from tacitly accepting future military takeovers, said Rio Sen. Afonso Arinos, a vocal advocate of the age law.

Voting has been mandatory for the rest of the population since 1985, when civilian President Jose Sarney took office in a military-controlled electoral college

of many young registered voters.

Angered by indecision and nepotism in their government and frustrated by shrinking job markets and spiralling inflation, Brazilians are using their vote as a tool for drastic change, surveys and interviews show.

Young people, though aware of the economic strains imposed by Brazil's \$110-billion foreign debt, the Third World's largest, overwhelmingly blame corrupt government officials for the nation's problems, according to a recent survey of youths between 15 and 24 in Rio and Sao Paulo.

"More and more teenagers are realising that we ourselves are

one of the last hopes for turning our country around," said Ana Paula Nascimento, 16, a high school student in Brasilia, the capital.

Overwhelmingly, the most pressing problem facing the country's new leader is inflation, now running at 1,084 per cent a year. "My friends talk often about economics and what it'll be like when we finish school," said Celso Bastos, a University of Sao Paulo law professor.

But the expectation and anxiety surrounding the months leading up to November's election also seem to typify the mood this way until a few years ago."

A depressed educational system, environmental abuse, violence and social injustice are other prominent issues for Brazil's newest voters.

As a result, the teenagers are turning to liberal candidates who advocate socialist-oriented economic reform.

"The right wing has been running the country for years, and look how things are," said Rio student Edno Alberto Braz Serafim, 16. He plans to vote for Luis Inacio Lula da Silva of the far-left Workers' Party.

One right-of-centre candidate who has appealed to young voters is Fernando Collor de Mello, a 40-year-old upstart from Brazil's poor northeast who has pledged to clean up government.

"He's new blood," said Rio student Marielle Garcia, 17. "He hasn't gotten himself wound up in scandals. That's important to a lot of young people."

Lowering the voting age has kicked off heated arguments in congress on an array of issues, ranging from Brazil's penal code

and motor-vehicle laws to the draft.

Despite the brewing controversy, a number of 16- and 17-year-olds gearing up to vote maintain the issues are not related, but others are sounding alarms.

"We're expected to perform like adults more each day," said 17-year-old Rio student Carlos Enrique de Souza. "Giving us the chance to vote lets us express how we feel about the changes around us."

Economics of self-reliance

By Hassan Hammud

THE joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee is to be commended for organising a seminar on enabling the occupied Arab territories attain self-reliance in the economic and rural development fields.

The seminar in which an elite of development experts from Jordan and Egypt are taking part, is of paramount importance, coming at a crucial moment, lighting up the skies over the long night of Israeli occupation; and considered as a means of boosting the endeavours of the oppressed Palestinians now involved in a struggle against occupation, armed only with stones and their faith in God.

Since 1967, the Israelis have been intent on implementing a policy of evacuating the Arab land of Palestine by all available means. This policy is clearly manifested in a statement by Israel's Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin who has said that Israel will not allow any form of development in the territories under its rule, and there can be no expansion of Arab territories' agricultural and industrial sectors at any cost.

For this reason, the Israelis have been directing their "blows" and hostile actions against the Palestinian agricultural sector which employs some 70 per cent of the total population of the occupied lands since it is the main source of income for the majority of people. To achieve its objectives, Israel has been intent on demolishing Arab homes, burning Arab plants and crops and spraying dangerous chemicals on Arab trees, and above all, stealing Arab water and preventing Arab farmers from marketing their products.

This all-out war waged by Israel and its troops against our people in the urban and rural regions of the occupied territories aims at destroying Arab agriculture, the infrastructure of Arab existence, to force the Arab citizens to look somewhere else for a living. In my view, should Israel win this war, it will do no doubt strengthen its hold over the Arab lands and perpetuate its occupation. Such victory would prompt the Zionist leaders to pursue expansionist policies elsewhere in the Arab World.

Therefore, the Arabs should take a serious and firm stand in the face of Israel's evil plots by arming our kinsmen in the occupied territories with all means of knowledge, and by providing them with all forms of material and moral support to back their efforts and their potentials needed for steadfastness and resistance.

Needless to say that the Arab Nation ought to encourage cooperative societies to maintain their active work through a special fund for Palestinian farmers who should be helped to form societies to organise their water supply and consumption; continue land reform programmes, maintain rural women development plans and conduct other essential work that would boost self-reliance within the Arab society.

I would also like to stress two important points:

First — Arab countries ought to take speedy and immediate steps to help Palestinian farmers to market their agricultural products.

Second — Arab countries ought to work out a special information programme dealing with land development in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands.

We sincerely hope that the seminar will come up with a clear, applicable plan, easily perceived by the Arab people of Palestine and translated into action to fight off injustice, and aggression and benefit our people whose struggle represents the most noble picture of national belonging and sacrifice.

The writer is deputy director general of the Jordan Press Foundation.

Soviet concessions made accords possible

By Barry Schwed

The Associated Press

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming — The Soviet Union's internal problems set the stage for a series of concessions by Moscow that may have provided fresh momentum to reducing superpower nuclear arsenals.

The Soviets came to this rocky mountain setting in a compromising mood and the United States, mindful of Soviet President



A retired nursery owner, Frank Lockyear has devoted his life to the greening of the planet.

Tree planter extraordinaire

By Phillipa Neave

NEW YORK — "We have not inherited the earth from our fathers, we are borrowing it from our children." This thought-provoking statement is often used by environmentalists in their efforts to persuade people to be more sensitive and caring about the world in which we live.

Although natural disasters like hurricanes and earthquakes have routinely been covered by the media for decades, only recently have studies been done on the rape of the planet. One aspect of the problem which seems to have caught the world's attention is the inexorable destruction of the forests.

Frank Lockyear caught on a long time ago, and he has been trying to do something about the problem. At 76, this grandfather says he started worrying about the environment 50 years ago. Established in the state of Oregon on the Pacific coast, he has worked since he was a boy, planting trees wherever he went. Since 1929, he has probably planted a million or more trees all over the world.

Lockyear had a nursery for 40 years, and since his retirement in 1977 he has continued to travel and has devoted all of his time to the greening of the planet and he has drawn in thousands in his wake.

Lockyear's passion for tree planting is contagious, and he always tries to involve young people — those who will inherit the world, such as it is. "I rely on youth organisations like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, schools, and I get some support from other groups like the Lions Club," he explained in a recent interview. (The Lions Club and the Rotary Club, mentioned below, are international fraternal and service organisations).

The avuncular Lockyear first identifies a region of the world that he sees as particularly in need of forestation or reforestation and then plans a tree-planting project for the area. "I make contact with the agriculture or forestry department and tell them I want to organise a tree-planting operation. I get them to contribute seedlings and other help. We always need seedlings that are appropriate and have been tested for the local habitat. I also get them to contribute transportation and other such help for the volunteers," he says.

Lockyear sees deforestation and desertification as one of the major threats to the planet. "What happens in one part of the world affects the rest of the world," he says. It's unfortunate that at the same time as the population growth is out of control, desertification and deforestation are spreading at an alarming rate. Statistics show that an estimated 27.2 million acres of tropical forests are disappearing every year as trees are cut down or burned either for their wood or because ranchers and farmers want the land. As a result, an area the size of a soccer field is disappearing every second.

Land is also being lost to the desert because of erosion brought by too much grazing or heavy agricultural use. Experts warn that about 14.8 million acres of new desert are found every year, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa but also in South America and Asia. When the land can no longer sustain the people, the people move and the devastating cycle is repeated.

In Asia, the destruction of trees on Nepal's hilly slopes, caused by slash-and-burn farming methods, contributes to the

floods that periodically ravage Bangladesh. In Thailand and Malaysia, forests have been slashed down by companies in search of valuable hardwoods such as teak and mahogany.

In the Caribbean, an airborne observer will see a huge reddish-brown tongue pushing out into the pale, green-blue waters of Haiti as the rains wash the earth from the denuded hills into the sea. In Northern Europe and the United States, forests are being destroyed by acid rain, a byproduct of the pollution caused largely by the combustion of fossil fuels such as coal.

Lockyear founded a non-profit organisation in 1980 called ReTree International and flies around the world to do his bit to repair some of the damage. The countries that he has worked in almost circle the globe: Poland, Bulgaria, Morocco, Iran, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Liberia, Chile, Argentina, Ecuador, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Malaysia and Thailand.

In Thailand, Lockyear has organised several projects over the years. The most extensive was a massive tree-planting operation in 1987 which involved 10,000 college students. "The Thais have been destroying their forests very rapidly, but now they are making great efforts to conserve and replant them," he noted. "Teak trees are now protected by law. We planted teak, mahogany and many other kinds of trees; the people involved in the project were very enthusiastic."

Lockyear's speciality is also to teach others how to reforest so they can continue the work once he has moved on to another part of the world. "It takes a little knowledge to plant trees," says the master planter. "First, you need a well-prepared hole which has to be of sufficient size to accommodate the roots. Then you need to make a backfill with loose earth and finally pack down the earth around the tree to exclude the air, otherwise the roots will rot. There has to be sufficient moisture, and you have to make sure it is away from competitive plants that might smother it."

What's important is not so much the quantity of trees planted as the quality of the planting work. He explains: "I try to encourage children to plant trees, and to plant them well. I've been planting trees for 50 years but we are not out just to plant in numbers. We want to make sure the trees grow and survive, and that is why I always try to work in cooperation with local forest services or professional tree-planting organisations."

Lockyear has trained a great many team leaders, but interest and demand for this skill has grown so much of late that he has been putting together a book on the subject soon to be published by ReTree International.

Lockyear works mostly with young people because he believes it is the best way to guarantee there will be a follow-up to planting projects. "We hope to educate young school children and get them involved in a real little forest. If possible, we try to do it near their school so that they can see the trees grow to maturity, feel proud, and also protect the trees they planted," he adds.

Although his projects almost invariably meet with enthusiasm and a positive response, Lockyear's personal problem is raising enough funds to carry them out. There is never a shortage of volunteers to do the actual planting, but funds are always lacking when it comes

to paying for expenses such as transportation of volunteers or airfares. Most of the money comes from Lockyear's own modest income, though he sometimes receives help from organisations such as the Lions Club or Rotary Club, but then again, it is usually in goods or services. Large international bodies such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation have never produced funds. Says Lockyear wryly, "The organisations support us, but they never give us any money. In fact almost everybody supports this kind of thing, but not many contribute!"

Nevertheless, he says, NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) has come up with support for a major project that Lockyear has been working on for years. In the early 1980s the American tree planter put his knowledge of trees to work in experimenting with growing trees in Arctic regions. Geological evidence has shown that Arctic areas were once covered with vegetation, and Lockyear, in cooperation with scientists in Alaska is trying to develop species of trees that will flourish in such climatic conditions.

The Arctic region can support trees, they are slower growing because the growing season is shorter, but those huge empty areas need to be planted to counter the loss in tropical areas, which we can't seem to be able to stop," he explains.

A symposium on the subject will soon be held in Iceland, and international experts studying trees that grow in mountain regions and high-elevation vegetation will discuss the viability of Lockyear's idea.

It may be a while before we see the frozen wastes of the Arctic turn green, but in the meantime, says Lockyear, everyone of us can do his or her share to help: "Everyone should help to protect and plant trees for the future. If we plant trees on our idle lands, we will have a good habitat for wildlife; the air, land, water, industry and man will benefit."

Meanwhile, in West Germany, the Glasers' story struck a similar chord for an attractive 47-year-old

Lis Spans has given up an active social whirl of parties and restaurants. She has also given up her profitable antique shop and sold her smart car. *Lions* features.

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Colombia's outgoing justice minister reflected youth, candour

Reuter

BOGOTA — Monica de Greiff, 32, reflected the style and candour of a new generation of Colombian professionals when she took up her post as justice minister in July.

But in resigning after just two months in the job at the forefront of fighting the nation's cocaine cartels she reflected another widespread attitude — caution.

Her resignation was officially confirmed Friday by a justice ministry spokeswoman.

De Greiff had received repe-

ated death threats, not surprising for someone in a post considered one of the most risk in Colombia since the April 30, 1984, assassination of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla.

Another predecessor, Enrique Parejo Gonzalez, who helped set up an Andean Pact to fight drug trafficking, was shot and seriously wounded in January, 1987, in Budapest, where he was posted as ambassador for his safety.

In the three years that President Virgilio Barco has been in office there have been eight justice ministers and the resignation

of each sparked questions of capitulation to narcotics-related threats.

Besides administering the country's 4,370 judges, de Greiff

had resigned because of the death threats and handled reporters' questions at a news conference in the U.S. capital directly and candidly.

Taking up her post in Bogota on July 16, she also broke with formality and pomp.

Attending her swearing-in De Greiff, who has shoulder-length blonde hair, wore a flowered-print dress reaching her ankles and brought her three-year-old son, Miguel.

The toddler broke protocol when he stepped across a room and interrupted Barco by asking

to see the pen with which the leader was signing the ministerial inauguration papers.

De Greiff's candour reflected the style of a younger generation of Colombian professionals.

"Monica De Greiff has little in common with the hardened men, who are experts in protocol, in long and heavy speeches... and use English handkerchiefs with Italian ties," the newspaper La Prensa wrote in a recent profile.

However, one analyst thought at the time of her swearing in that she might be too young to weather the pressures of her job.

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Australian ambassador clears issue of 'sheep gift' to Jordan

By Suhaib Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Australian ambassador to Jordan, Robert Bowker, Tuesday denied reports that his government had offered Jordan a gift of 10,000 heads of diseased Australian sheep.

The ambassador, addressing a hastily arranged press conference at the embassy, said his country and Jordan had discussed the idea of a gift of Australian sheep but categorically denied reports that such a shipment had arrived in Jordan or even that a formal offer was made to the Kingdom.

"We firmly reject the suggestion (in local newspaper) that the Australian government offered diseased sheep to Jordan," the ambassador said.

The "suggestion" that the ambassador referred to had said that a shipment of 10,000 Australian sheep had been found to be infected with bluetongue and brucella melitensis (Malta fever) diseases, and were offered by the Australian government as a gift to Jordan.

In a press release, Bowker said "initial testing of these animals in Abu Dhabi for brucella melitensis infection had given positive results," but added that "further testing in Britain, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, confirmed the sheep to be free of any serious infectious disease."



Australian Ambassador Robert Bowker explains the thorny sheep issue which has been a problem in this region this month.

Bahrain banks shoulder hefty problem loans

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's commercial banks made loan loss provisions or debt writeoffs worth 100 million dinars (\$265 million) during the past few years, the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) has said.

BMA Governor Abdullah Saif told the English language Gulf Daily News (GDN) the island's largest commercial banks alone had rescheduled more than 200 domestic loans worth between 175-200 million dinars (\$464-\$530 million).

Saif did not give a time frame for either figure or say how many of the island's 20 commercial banks were involved in the rescheduled loans.

He said despite assistance given by the BMA to help commercial banks cope with debt servicing difficulties brought on by a regional recession, they made an aggregate loss of \$60,000 dinars (\$1.6 million) in 1988.

This compared with an aggre-

gate profit of 29.1 million dinars (\$7.7 million) in 1983.

The GDN said Saif denied there was any crisis in the island's banking sector. Commercial banks had covered themselves through loan loss provisions and were continuing to make credit available to private customers, he said.

"In practice, considerable progress has been made by banks and their customers in reaching loan settlements that take a realistic account of the change in the borrower's circumstances," the GDN quoted him as saying.

"Now, most banks are adequately covered through provisions," he said.

Saif said outstanding loans to the private sector stood at 478 million dinars (\$1.3 billion) at the end of the first half of 1989.

According to BMA statistics, this compares with 534 million dinars (\$1.4 billion) in the first half of 1988.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Dow Jones wants all of Telerate

NEW YORK (R) — Dow Jones and Co, moving to consolidate its role in electronic publishing, has said it would acquire the remainder of Telerate, the financial information service already 66 per cent owned by the Wall Street Journal publisher. Dow Jones said it will pay \$576 million, or \$18 per share, for Telerate's 32 million publicly owned shares. Telerate, founded two decades ago, was a pioneer in the booming business of providing real-time financial information to banks, brokers and corporations, using a global network of video terminals. Dow Jones, also a major player in electronic news with its computer-based Dow Jones news retrieval, began building a stake in Telerate in recent years. It has long been expected to buy 100 per cent of Telerate stock at some point, although traders were surprised at the timing. The new Dow Jones bid values Telerate at about \$1.7 billion.

Bangladesh gets new IFAD loan

ROME (R) — Bangladesh, the largest beneficiary of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has received an \$8.2 million loan for the third phase of a project to help small farmers. The money will go to the Grameen Bank which was set up in 1980 to help Bangladesh's rural landless people, particularly women, and has since provided credits of more than \$133 million to more than 570,000 people. The Rome-based IFAD, a United Nations agency, said that under the third phase, Grameen Bank loans will be granted for home improvements and small-scale farm production and to promote activities bringing environmental benefits.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, September 26, 1989
Central Bank official rates

Buy	Sell	French franc	94.7	95.6
611.7	617.7	Japanese yen (for 100)	428.0	432.3
985.2	995.1	Dutch guilder	284.1	286.9
320.6	323.8	Swedish crown	94.2	95.1
368.7	372.4	Italian lira (for 100)	44.4	44.8
		Belgian franc (for 10)	153.3	154.7

not exist in his country.

"Malta fever does not exist in Australia," he said. "It is spread by female sheep, usually through unpasteurized milk or cheese or unborn animals. Australia exports only male sheep, so one can ultimately rule out the possibility that they are infected with Malta fever."

Blue tongue has never been detected among commercial flocks of Australian sheep, and sheep pox does not exist in Australia or in its region, he said.

According to the ambassador, Australia exports to the Gulf a total of six million sheep, out of which 3.1 million goes to Saudi Arabia, according to reports. Part of the rest was sold to other Gulf states.

Foreign agencies reports ear-

lier this month quoted the Australian Primary Industries and Trade Minister John Kerin as estimating the total number of sheep turned away by Saudi Arabia at 400,000.

The rejections, they said, were based on Saudi allegations that the shipments were infected with either Malta fever, blue tongue or sheep pox.

After the latest rejection, Australia suspended livestock shipments to Saudi Arabia.

Another shipment of 17,000 sheep was rejected by Abu Dhabi, but was traced as part of the shipments rejected by Saudi Arabia, according to reports. Part of the rest was sold to other Gulf states.

Foreign agencies reports ear-

Conable advocates lower military expenditures in 'a world of tight budgets'

WASHINGTON (AP) — World Bank President Barber Conable, in a speech delivered Tuesday, warned that economic development must be coupled with new efforts to preserve the environment in Third World countries.

"It will be impossible to improve the quality of life... unless we do much more to conserve our global environment," Conable said in the speech to the bank's annual meeting. One goal, he said, would be the reduction of carbon monoxide emissions, which contribute to global warming.

Conable also said the Third World, which spends \$200 billion a year on defence, more than its combined expenditure on health and education, must devote fewer resources to the military if it expects to prosper.

"Developing countries on one side, and their arms suppliers and creditors on the other, must adapt to a world where budgets are tight," he said. "...in evaluating their military expenditures, governments should be realistic, but they also should remember the human consequences of these choices."

Conable said military spending was "a sensitive component of the fiscal problem" that can no longer be neglected, because arms are often a prime source of external debt, accounting for a third or more of the interest owed by some major Third World countries.

As a whole, low income countries spend around 20 per cent of their funds on defence, Conable said, adding that despite cuts in other necessities, "the \$200 billion which the developing world spends annually on the military has largely been protected."

"It is important to place military spending on the same footing as other fiscal decisions, to examine possible tradeoffs more systematically, and to explore ways to bring military spending into better balance with development priorities," he said.

Conable added, "...let us hope that in the changing political climate of the 1990s, resources are increasingly allocated to more productive purposes."



The thin wedge of private enterprise: Making potholders at a cooperative in Leningrad

'Mood of people' steers Gorbachev

MOSCOW (AP) — The Supreme Soviet Tuesday stormed into a debate on the future of small private businesses that President Mikhail Gorbachev says are facing ultimatums from citizens angry over high prices and crime.

"How can it be that in an absence of soap, it appears in cooperatives, and not for 40 kopecks or one rouble, but five or six roubles?" Gorbachev asked as the joint session of the legislature opened the second day of its fall session.

"We have to take into account the mood of the people," he said. as the legislators began debates on proposed amendments to laws on cooperatives that will decentralise control over private firms and give local governments more power to regulate cooperatives.

Several groups, including trade union activists and a group of farmers who met with Gorbachev last weekend, are demanding a

crackdown on cooperatives, which charge prices that are not regulated by the state.

Economist Leonid Alibalkin, an economist and deputy premier, said in the morning debate that the government's goal was to make sure that cooperatives were treated equally with government enterprises.

The Kremlin, beset by financial difficulties, Monday unveiled a proposed budget that included an eight per cent cut in military spending.

Finance Minister Valentin Pavlov, who presented the budget proposal, described the country's economic problems as a "crisis." The Supreme Soviet's two-month session will consider about 80 bills aimed at altering some long-time givens of Soviet politics.

With a need to generate more revenues and cut expenses, the Kremlin plans to implement a

progressive income tax for Soviets earning 700 roubles (\$1,076) a month — more than three times the average worker's wage — and float a 60-billion-rouble (\$92 billion) bond issue, the nation's first domestic offering, to help finance new construction.

The 542-member bicameral Supreme Soviet, chaired by Gorbachev, has reconvened at a time of widespread turnout and discontent caused by the demands of various ethnic groups and by the state-run economy's failure to meet many Soviets' basic needs.

The government's plan for the economy in 1990 calls for a one-fifth increase in factory-made consumer goods, according to Deputy Premier Lev Voronin.

Pavlov said the government plan to cut military spending from 77.3 billion roubles (\$119 billion) to 70.9 billion roubles (\$109 bil-

lion) is in keeping with the directive from the Congress of People's Deputies to slash defence spending by 14 per cent by 1991.

According to Pavlov, the government plans to raise 54 billion roubles (\$83 billion) in new revenues and trim expenditures by 6.6 billion roubles (\$10.3 billion) to halve the 1989 government budget deficit of 120 billion roubles (\$192 billion) next year.

The sources of that expected new revenue were not clear, although the income tax would contribute some, as well as the tax on cooperatives, which is expected to bring in about 1.5 billion roubles (\$2.3 billion). Revenue from the proposed bond issue appears not to be included in Pavlov's revenue projection.

The resulting budget, calling for 488 billion roubles (\$750 billion) in expenditures "is intended to overcome the crisis situation in finance," Pavlov said.

'Best management exodus foils best-founded plans'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An Iranian daily has called for a greater role for the private sector in Iran's economy in the five-year development plan now being completed.

The officially-sponsored Tehran Times said shares of government enterprises should be sold to private investors.

According to the official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, the paper said that more employment and greater economic growth would be promoted if the government ceased by stages to directly operate industries "which can better be run by the private sector."

The paper also called for deals with foreign countries which would bring in needed technology in return for Iranian goods.

"This again can have immense long-term benefit for the economy of the nation," it said.

In what appeared to be a call to encourage Iranian businessmen who have fled the Islamic revolution to return or to prevent new defections, the paper said "nothing will come of the best-laid plans if the best management goes away."

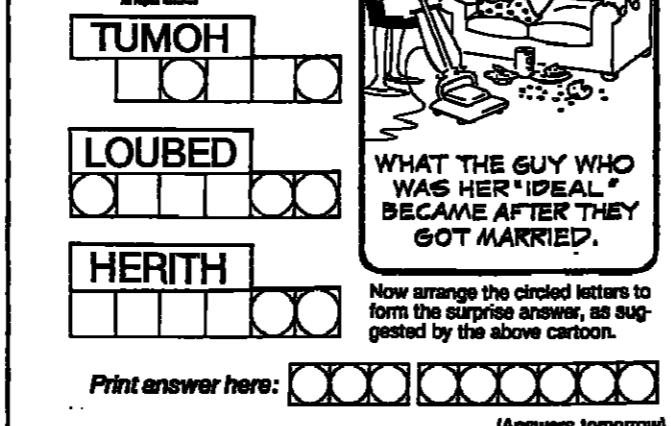
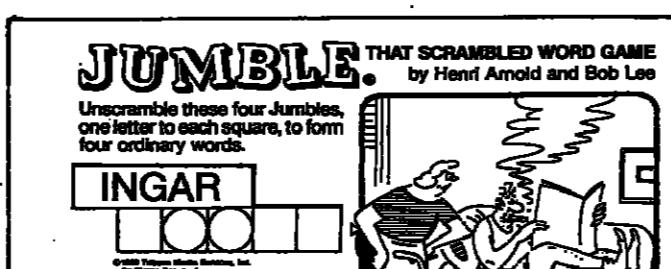
With efficient management and a quickening of economic expansion, the human resources can be tapped to good use to bring the nation to self-sufficiency," it noted.

It said the private sector must be encouraged to take a greater role in the economy.

Factions among Iran's clerical and secular leadership have been split on the issue of greater or less state control of the economy since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

The debate took a back seat during the eight-year war with Iraq but has come to the fore with preparation of reconstruction plans.

The Tehran Times is generally associated with the views of Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, himself a private businessman as well as a cleric.

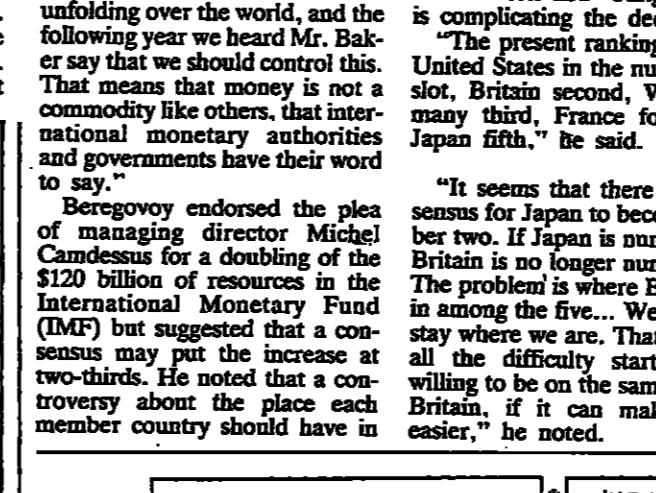


Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CURVE WALTZ SLICE OBTUSE
Answer: He dances with the upper set, and is apt to do this, too—USE HIS LOWERS



I GUESS YOU CAN NEVER COUNT ON THE WEATHER...



WHEN WE LEFT, IT WAS NICE AND CLEAR... NOW, LOOK WHAT WE'RE RUNNING INTO...

COASTAL FOG!

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GR-R-R

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OSCAR SHARF

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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K♦K987 ♦K983 ♦10542

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Since East passed, you would

raise to two hearts, so there's

no reason why you should not take

the same action now. The trouble

with passing is that a spade raise by

West could force you to guess at an

uncomfortable level. As a rule, it is

much safer to compete immediately

when you have a fit for partner's

suit and marginal values.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦QJ986 ♦6 ♦AQJ105 ♦AKQ

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Even though you have an excellent diamond suit with 100 honors, don't lose sight of the overall campaign. If you overall two diamonds, that could end the auction when partner could have enough for your side to make game in spades. Double, to see what he has to say.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦KQ976 ♦AQK 0K ♦AKQ

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—We don't know how this one sneaked in here—after partner's positive response it's too easy. If ever there was a hand for Blackwood, this is it. Bid four no trump.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The largest aims and ambitions that you can conceive will serve you well today with the unusually positive aspects that prevail. Don't mind that others view your means as far out and unlikely.

ARIES: (March 20 to April 17) You would be wise to keep in mind the basic plan of action agreed upon originally by you in your work. This is a good day to follow up on things already started.

TAURUS: (April 18 to May 19) New ideas will be excellent at your work so long as you are not too forceful. Financial protection is now yours for any new ventures in which you become interested.

GEMINI: (May 20 to June 20) You will have a new idea at your work which can put you quickly into a top position. A private huddle with a dynamic practical-minded person will open up new ways to increase revenue.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 21 to July 21) You will stand pretty much alone during your work, but don't ignore duties but do them efficiently. Forget that long drawn out project and start a new project by which you can make some money.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A change will now be necessary at your work so be sure to do it quickly. Follow the suggestions of a highly placed person now if you want to increase your income.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) It is up to you to get the information by which you can increase your efficiency at your job. An influential man has several ideas for increasing your income.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) You will have many good ideas for your work but you will need to make them much more practical. You will now be realising some benefits from a time venture now.

producing money for you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You will have blind spots where some work conditions are concerned so be sure that you are open-minded. A new approach at your financial responsibilities will bring you ways to make more money if you are to have more income.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) The more practical the approach at your work today, the more of value you will get done at your job. You will need to organise your time and energies more efficiently if you are to have more income.

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 18) Go to the most influential man that you know that you feel can give you brilliant ideas for doing your job. You will have great charm today. Use it on your attachment.

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PISCES: (February 18 to March 21) Watch your step at work for otherwise you may have an unpleasant surprise. If you want to make more money it will be necessary that you have more expertise about your work.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will view the world around them from its broadest potential and start planning early how to achieve successful life patterns and acceptance.

Relying mostly on their own ideas and gained wisdom, this Libra will need more than just a conventional education to find their niche.

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Slovenia challenges authorities, secession amendments set for vote

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Slovenian leaders were defiant Tuesday, apparently ready to approve changes to the republic's constitution despite hints central authorities might use force to quell their drive for independence.

Miran Potr, president of the Slovenian parliament, was quoted by the Vecernje Novosti newspaper as saying he is "certain" that the proposed amendments, including one declaring the republic's right of secession, will be adopted by the Slovenian legislature at a vote scheduled Wednesday.

Slovenia's Central Committee said Tuesday, "there are no convincing reasons for delaying the adoption of the amendments nor do they conflict with the Yugoslav constitution," according to the Tanjug news agency.

The Communist Party's policy-setting Central Committee, the Slovenian Central Committee and the federal parliament have all scheduled emergency sessions Tuesday to discuss the political

crisis sparked by the controversial amendments.

Slovenian lawmakers in the federal parliament said they would boycott the Belgrade session.

According to a proposed amendment, Yugoslavia's most prosperous and liberal republic would have a "lasting and inalienable right to proclaim self-determination, including the right of secession."

Another proposal amendment stipulates that only the Slovenian authorities have the right to proclaim a state of emergency in the region and to authorise the use of Yugoslav army units in the republic which borders Italy, Austria and Hungary.

The collective state presidency in charge of the federal armed

forces said Monday it would use all "legal measures" to prevent the adoption of the amendments, indicating it might proclaim a state of emergency in the northern republic.

It was the second time this month that the eight-member presidency had issued such a stern warning to Slovenia, hinting that it may resort to force to halt the adoption of the controversial amendments.

The authoritative Slovenian daily Delo said in a commentary entitled "this time things are serious" that "the suddenly increased political pressure on Slovenia" has for the first time "openly demonstrated that speculations about emergency measures in Yugoslavia might have a very real base."

The eventual introduction of such measures "would be a veritable catastrophe for Yugoslavia and its future democratic development," said the commentary.

Peking hits Paris, accuses it of anti-Chinese position

BEIJING (AP) — China continued its strong criticism of France Tuesday, saying the French open-door policy towards Chinese pro-democracy dissidents was "brutal interference" in China's internal affairs.

The Communist Party's People's Daily (Renmin Ribao) accused France of violating U.N. and international laws.

"People can't help believing that, under the pretext of upholding human rights, the very purpose of the French government is to support the anti-Chinese government activities," the newspaper said.

The lengthy commentary came a day after the Foreign Ministry issued a strong protest to France over the staging in Paris of the inaugural meeting of the Federation of Democracy in China, a

group headed by political activists who fled China following the June 3-4 military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement.

Like the Foreign Ministry Monday, the People's Daily asserted that the federation leaders are criminals who tried to overthrow the Chinese government, and that France was seriously threatening Sino-French relations by harbouring them.

The French government "has the cheek to brag that its connivance and open support to the anti-Chinese government activities of Yan Jiaqi and the like are for 'safeguarding human rights,'" it said, referring to the political scientist elected chairman of the federation.

But the Chinese government is strong and stable, it said, and "any scheme to subvert the Peo-

ple's Republic will surely end up in a daydream as anyone who bets on a handful of national scums such as Yan Jiaqi is doomed to fail."

The commentary noted that France was the first nation to declare a freeze on high-level contacts and other sanctions following the June suppression of dissent and these acts "have led to a deterioration of the Sino-French relations.

The daily also mentioned other recent cases of "violent terrorist activities" against China, such as a two-hour occupation of the Chinese embassy education section in Paris in late June, an attack on the office of China's Airlines in Paris and the alleged harassment by French border police of Chinese officials transiting through France.

"I'm glad you (journalists) came to inform the world about

the situation. World opinion will distract us from the Khmer Rouge," one young worker said. "I'm not so sure about our army."

By Tuesday night all remaining 26,000 Vietnamese soldiers should have crossed east back to their own country, ending a military presence dating back to the December, 1978 invasion and which reached 200,000 at its peak.

But there were few complaints about the comportment of Hanoi's Bo Doi — foot soldiers — as they left.

"Pol Pot was going to wipe us out, the Vietnamese saved us," said a woman at a farewell ceremony Monday.

"Of course there were a few bad incidents, but their army was very disciplined," said Kieu Khunh, editor of the newspaper Kampuchea.

But there were some signs of nervousness in the capital.

Prices have soared. One trader said rice prices doubled this month. The cost of petrol has also rocketed, she said.

A gold ring that sold for 8,000 riel (\$40) in March now fetches 9,300 (347).

"We don't know the reason for the inflation, maybe merchants are whipping up concerns to make profits and salt away gold in case of a crisis," a shopkeeper said.

Tiny Cambodia has historically distrusted Vietnam, fearing its big, poor and overcrowded neighbour may try to swallow it.

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